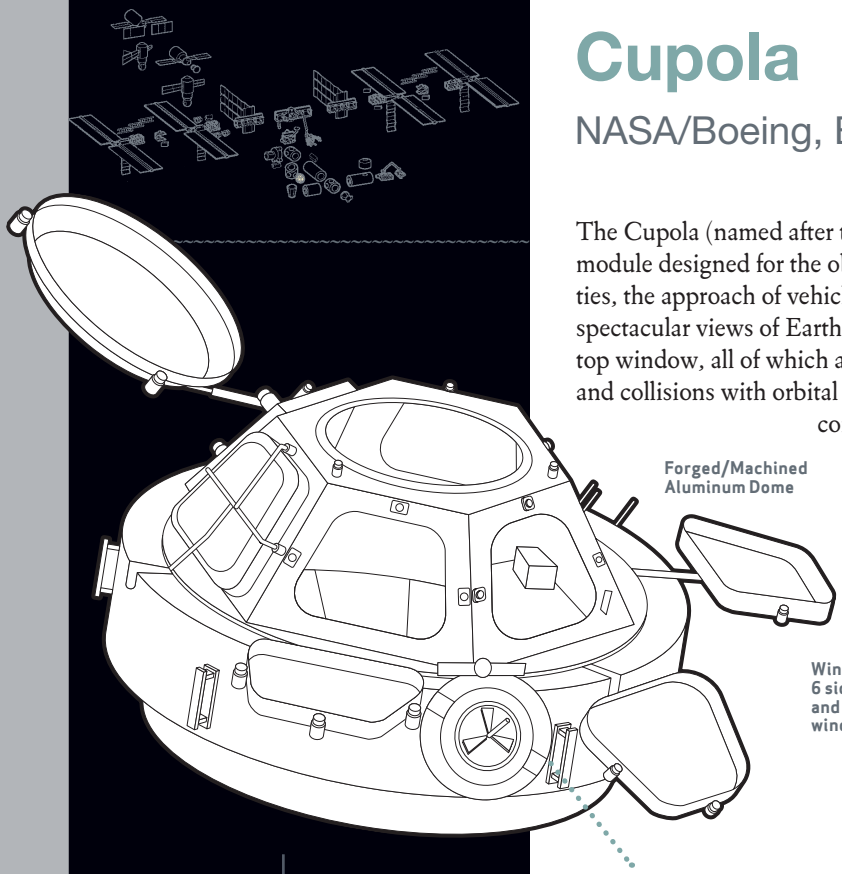
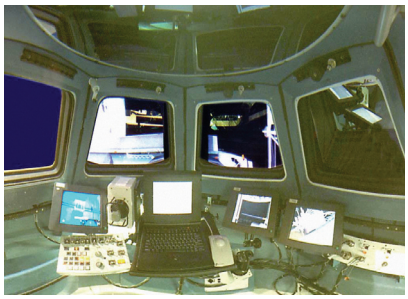
Cupola

NASA/Boeing, ESA/Alcatel Alenia Space

The Cupola (named after the raised observation deck on a railroad caboose) is a small module designed for the observation of operations outside the ISS such as robotic activities, the approach of vehicles, and extravehicular activity (EVA). It will also provide spectacular views of Earth and celestial objects. The Cupola has six side windows and a top window, all of which are equipped with shutters to protect them from contamination and collisions with orbital debris or micrometeorites. The Cupola is designed to house computer workstations that control the ISS and the remote manipulators. It can accommodate two crewmembers simultaneously and is berthed to a Node using the Common Berthing Mechanism (CBM).

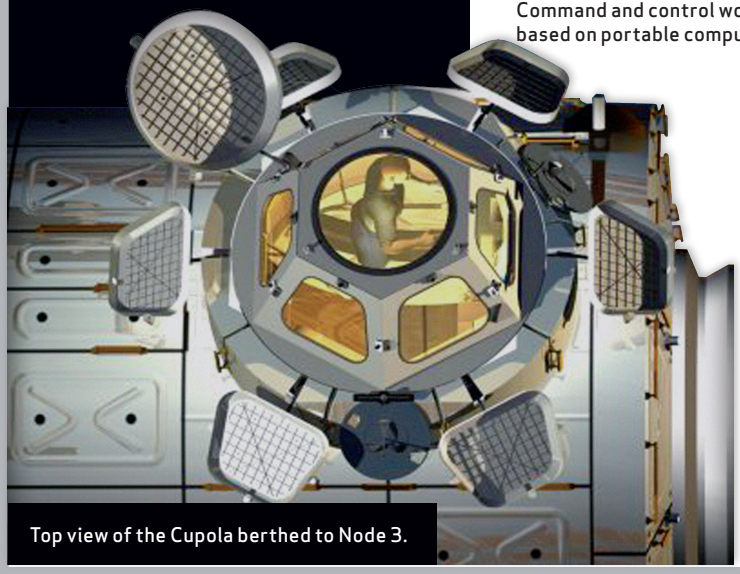


Length	3 m (9.8 ft)
Height	1.5 m (4.7 ft)
Diameter	3 m (9.8 ft)
Mass	1,880 kg (4,136 lb)
Capacity	2 crewmembers with portable workstation



Command and control workstation based on portable computer system.

The Cupola in development.



Top view of the Cupola berthed to Node 3.

View looking into the Cupola from the Node as an entering astronaut would see it.